

had been particularly instructed to keep up a constant Correspondence with us all & my Friend Sr John joined me in representing to him the ill Consequence that might attend his marching so suddenly from Fort Cumberland without advising the Neighbouring Governors thereof, for my own part I said I had not waited for a Lett^r from him tho I should have esteemed his Writing as a Favour but as I had learnt before I came thither that he had left or was about to leave the Frontiers I had taken some & should on my Return towards Annapolis take more effectual Measures for the Safety of the People under my Care, & that no doubt Governor Dinwiddie & M^r Morris would have done the same had they been advised or if they should accidentally hear of the Step which he was about to take. Soon after I left the Camp he begun his March but had not proceeded far before Col^o Innes (whom General Braddock had appointed Governor of Fort Cumberland) sent after him desiring a Reinforcement, the Provincial Troops that were left being not supposed a sufficient Garrison for the Defence of the Fort; the Lett^r was writ with great freedom & the Penman did not seem to have considered what phrases would be most agreeable to the Gentlemen to whom t^{was} addressed the Colonel I beleive took no notice of it but continued his March & soon afterwards received General Shirley's Orders to proceed to Albany with all possible Expedition. Sr W^m Johnson is not as you seem to expect to have the Command of the Provincial Troops that are raising in the Eastern Colonies for another Expedition against Crown Point, That is to be given to Colo Winsloe who commanded the New England Troops last Summer in Nova Scotia. I cannot learn what Character he bears as an Officer but he is much esteemed in New England & it is said the Eastern Colonies have resolved to raise for him near 9000. Sr W^m Johnson will concern himself only with the Indians which is his proper Sphere, I beleive the Indians that he leads are to act in Conjunction with the Regulars & the Iersey Regiment on the Lakes this Summer I have been informed that to support his Interest among the Indians of the Six Nations, he had almost spent his Fortune therefore it gives me pleasure to hear that his Services have been rewarded in the manner you mention. I am inclined to think General Shirley must be weary of his Command & will resign without much Reluctance, the News of his being superceeded will not I beleive be unwelcome to the Troops or the Inhabitants of N York but I fear the people of the Massachusetts Bay will not be so well satisfied with any Gentⁿ that might be appointed his Successor in that Govern^t General Braddock was ordered before he left England to disembark the Regiments in Virg^a & proceed directly towards Fort Du Quesne